The GAZETTE, OF THE State of South-Carolina.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1779. [No. 2131]

OBSERVATIONS *upon* CONTINENTAL MONEY.

THE quantity of money neceſſary for a medium of commerce in the United States, is about thirty millions of dollars. This ſum hath been found formerly equal to all the exigencies of trade, and every emiſſion beyond it muſt neceſſarily be attended with a proportionable depreciation.

The credit and value of money are diſtinct things. Its credit depends upon the faith and ſtability of government, and its probable reſources for ſinking it. Its value upon its quantity. The value and credit of money have in ſome inſtances a reciprocal influence over each other. Thus every piece of news that affects the credit, affects in ſome degree the value of our money. The *French* alliance it is well known raiſed it ſeveral hundred per cent. in the ſpace of a ſingle week. Its riſe was in ſome meaſure artificial—hence it ſoon returned to that ſtate of depreciation which was natural to its quantity.

The quantity of money (inclusive of the ſtate emiſſions), now in circulation on the continent, amount to about one hundred and thirty millions of dollars, which is about four times as much as is neceſſary for a medium of trade; but the depreciation of the money has not kept pace with this quantity. Inſtead of ſtanding at about 400 par cent. it is depreciated on ſome things as low as 3000, on ſome as low as 2000, and on ſome few articles (houſes and lands excepted) leſs than 1000 par cent.

The cauſe of this unnatural depreciation, I imagine may be reduced to three heads.

1ſt. A ſcarcity of many articles, particulary of all European goods.

2d. A monopoly of many articles, particularly of Weſt Indja goods. This operates in the ſame way as a ſcarcity.

3d. A want of confidence in the credit of money, inducing people to aſk and give a greater ſum for articles than they are worth.

Gold and ſilver are falſe marks of the value of our money. They are ſubject to monopolies, and are articles of trade. Their value riſe and fall with the credit of the paper money. Half joes which ſold in Lancaſter in January 1778, for 30l. continental money, were ſold in June following for 91. and 12l. This ſudden appreciation of the paper money was occaſioned by the news of the French alliance.

Proviſions are likewiſe falſe marks of the value of our money; ſome of them are ſcarcer than formerly, and a few of them are ſubject to monopolies. The want of hands to cultivate the earth has no doubt contributed good deal to raiſe the price of proviſions above the ſtandard of the depreciation of the money. The ſcarcity of European goods, and the monopoly of Weſt India goods have likewiſe helped to raiſe the price of proviſions. The farmer muſt charge the extraordinary price of calicoes, tea, ſugar, coffee, &c. upon the produce of his farm, or he will be a loſer by his labour.

Land is the only true barometer by which we ſhould meaſure the value of our money; it is not ſcarce, nor can it be eaſily monopolized. Hence we find that it is ſold in few places for more than three or four times its former nominal price. The appreciation of our money can only be affected by the following means:

1ſt. A reduction of the quantity by taxes, and a detection of counterfeits. The Congreſs have wiſely adopted meaſures for theſe purpoſes in their reſolutions of the 2d of *January* laſt.

2d. By putting a ſtop to future emiſſions. The loans in conſequence of taking the emiſſions of May 20, 1777, & Ap. 11, 1778, from circulation, and the preſent year will probably prevent the neceſſity of emitting any more money. Beſides the loans obtained by the means of the above reſolution of Congreſs, there is reaſon to expect large loans from the French, Dutch, Daniſh, and even *Britiſh* iſlands. I publiſh it as a fact, that ſeveral men of fortune in Jamaica have ſecretly conveyed their property though the medium of a neutral port to this country, and have ordered the amount of it to be lodged in the funds of the United States.

3d. The reduction of the number of our land forces, and the ſyſtem of œconomy about to be introduced into all the departments of the army, will neceſſarily have an immediate effect in appreciating our money. Britain has ſeen her error, and will never attempt again the conqueſt of America. If ſhe perſeveres in keeping poſſeſſion of our ſea-ports, a few thouſand men will be ſufficient to prevent her gariſons from making inroads upon our country.

4th. A free trade is abſolutely neceſſary to appreciate our money. A few cargoes of European goods would immediately raiſe it to 4 or 500 per cent. Here I cannot help hinting at the diſtreſs and ruin which are impending over all monopolizers and foreſtallers; I wiſh our laws may let them alone until they have filled up the meaſure for their iniquities. I well remember the conſternation that ſeized them upon the news of France having acknowledged our independence. The long voyage of Count D'Eſtaing and his ſufferings by a ſtorm after his arrival on our coaſt, reprieved them from certain deſtruction; but for the ſake of the innocent who muſt ſuffer with the guilty, I ſhall here let theſe harpies into a ſecret. Large quantities of goods are now on their way to this country, under a ſtrong convoy. A new channel of trade has been opened, and we truſt from the ſtrength and vigilance of our great ally, this channel will never be cloſed by tenders and cutters.

5th. Should Spain acknowledge our independence and join France in the preſent war, the balance of fleets will be immediately thrown into the Bourbon ſcale. The conſequence of this will be, that every fear, reſpecting the credit of our money, will be diſpelled. The timid Whigs and the obſtinate Tories will then ceaſe to meaſure the value of our money by gold and ſilver; they will then repent of the enormous ſums they have given for real eſtates, and joyfully part with them for half price, eſteeming nothing more profitable than money at intereſt at ſix per cent.

America has undergone a moſt ſevere ſtruggle. She contended alone for three years with one of the moſt powerful nations the world. The conflict was ſo violent as to convulſe her. She reſembles at preſent a young perſon exhauſted of ſpirits by a convulſion fit; but her ſtamina and vitals are unimpaired. A little reſt will ſoon reſtore her to her ancient habits of vigour and virtue, and render her the happieſt ſpot upon the ſurface of the globe.

PHILADELPHIA, March 13.

Head Quarters, Middlebrook, March 8, 1779.

SIR,

I Herewith tranſmit your Excellency an extract of a letter from Major General Putnam, containing an account of the incurſion of the enemy to Horſeneck, which I mentioned in my laſt.

I alſo encloſe you a return of the priſoners we have taken from the enemy in their retreat.

With great reſpect I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's obedient and moſt humble ſervant,

G. WASHINGTON.

His Excellency John Jay, Eſq.

Extract of a letter from Major General Putnam, dated Camp at Reading, March 8, 1779.

"A detachment from the enemy at Kingsbridge, conſiſting of the 17th, 44th and 57th Britiſh regts. one of Heſſians and two of new levies marched from their lines for Horſeneck on the evening of the 25th ult. with an intention of ſurpriſing the troops at that place and deſtroying the ſalt works.

"A Captain and thirty men were ſent from our advanced lines at Horſeneck as a ſcout, who diſcovered the enemy at New Rochel in their advance. They retired before them undiſcovered as far as Ryeneck, were it growing light, the enemy obſerved and attacked them. They defended themſelves as well as poſſible, and made their way good to Sawpitts, where they took the advantage of a commanding piece of ground, and made ſome little ſtand, but the ſuperior force of the enemy obliged them to retire over Byrum bridge, which they took up, by that means had an opportunity of reaching Horſeneck in ſafety.

"As I was there myſelf to ſee the ſituation of the guards, I had the troops formed on a hill by the meeting houſe, ready to receive the enemy as they advanced. They came on briſkly, and I ſoon diſcovered that their deſign was to turn our flanks, and poſſeſs themſelves of a defile in our rear, which would effectually prevent our retreat. I therefore ordered parties out on both flanks, with direction to give me information of their approach, that we might retire in ſeaſon. In the mean time a column advanced up the road, where the remainder of the troops (amounting only to about ſixty) were poſted. We diſcharged ſome old field pieces, which were there, a few times, and gave them a ſmall fire of muſketry, but without any conſiderable effect; the ſuperior force of the enemy ſoon obliged our ſmall detachment to abandon the place.

"I therefore directed the troops to deſire and form on a hill a little diſtance from Horſeneck, whilſt I proceeded to Stanford and collected a body of militia and a few continental troops that were there, with which I returned immediately, and found that the enemy (after plundering the inhabitants of the principal part of their effects, and deſtroying a few ſalt works, a ſmall ſloop and ſtore) were on their return. The officer commanding the continental troops ſtationed at Horſeneck, miſtook my orders, and went much further than I intended, ſo that he could not come up with them to any advantage. I, however, ordered the few troops that came from Stanford to purſue them, thinking they might have an opportunity to pick up ſome ſtraglers. In this I was not miſtaken, as your Excellency will ſee by the incloſed liſt of priſoners. Beſides theſe, eight or nine more were taken and ſent off, ſo that I cannot tell the particular regiments to which they belong. One ammunition and one baggage waggon were alſo taken. In the former there were about two hundred rounds of cannifters, grape and round ſhot, ſuited to three pounders, ſome ſlow match, and about two hundred tubes; the latter was filled with plunder, which I had the ſatisfaction of reſtoring to the inhabitants from whom it was taken. As I have not yet got a return, I cannot tell exactly the number we loſt, though I don't think more than ten ſoldiers and about that number of inhabitants, but a few of which were in arms."

Liſt of Priſoners taken at Horſeneck the 26th ultimo.

17th Regiment, 15 privates; 44th ditto, 5 ditto; 57th 3, Loyal American regiment 5, Emerick's corps 8, 1ſt battalion of artillery 1, pioneers 1,——total 38.

N.B. Seven deſerters from Emmerick's corps.

Publiſhed by Order of Congreſs.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

To the *PUBLIC.*

AS all appeals and narratives offered to the public, relative to things merely of a private nature, generally appear in their recitals rather tedious and unimportant. Had the ſubject in diſpute only affected individuals in their domeſtic capacities, the writer of this would not have taken a pen in hand, to have inveſtigated the matter. But it is humbly apprehended, that the point in queſtion is looked upon as of conſequence enough to claim ſome degree of attention. Sincerely ſorry is the ſubſcriber, that it is fallen to the lot of ſo inſignificant a perſon as herſelf, to develope the affair in debate, but in order to avoid any ambiguity of expreſſions, ſhe means now to drop writing in the third perſon, and ſpeak plainly in her own character.

Much has it been canvaſſed of late I underſtand in this ſtate, whether governor johnſtone ever had any converſation with a lady about politics in general, and general Reed in particular: Much has it been doubted by ſome, whether a lady ever had any converſation with general *Reed*, as related in Towne's Evening Poſt in july: And much has it been diſputed who the lady was, and if there really was ſuch a perſon; all theſe doubts have been ſuggeſted and inforced, according to the political ſentiments of the perſons who hinted them, as the inclination too often gives a byas to the judgment.

The many parties, which it is but too notorious and melancholy a truth, prevail at this time in this city, render it neceſſary for the ſubſcriber moſt ſeriouſly to declare, that ſhe is not influenced or directed by any perſon or perſons in office, or rejecting to be in office, in the Free and Independent States of America; or in the kingdom of Great Britain. And this preſent account now humbly preſented to the public, has never one line of it been ſeen by, or read to any individual of either ſex. Had it been ſubmitted to the peruſal of two or three judicious friends who honour her with their countenance, it doubtleſs would not have appeared ſo deſtitute of every ornament of ſtyle and poliſh of the pen, as it does at preſent: But as it was meant as a plain detail of *fact*, ſhe choſe rather to wave all theſe little embelliſhments, as to the manner, in order to have it in her power conſiſtent with truth, to make the above declaration.

As the houſe of a very particular friend of mine, Mr. Charles Stedman, happened to be the place appointed for governor johnſtone's reſidence during his ſtay in this city, I was in it the greateſt part of the time the Commiſſioners were here. I came to town to take leave of my huſband, in conſequence of a paſs granted me by the commander in chief of our army.

Three times I was in company with governor johnſtone; he expreſſed great deſire to have been admitted to have paſſed the lines, or that his ſecretary ſhould have had ſome intercourſe of a liberal kind (as he termed it) with people in power. I own that *I* did at that time look on governor johnſtone as a friend to America, who wiſhed ſome perſon would ſtep forth and act a mediatorial part, and ſuggeſt ſome thing to ſtop the effuſion of blood which was like to enſue if the war was carried on in its full vigour. The two former times of the three that *I* talked with governor johnſtone, the converſation was ſo general and the declaration ſo warm in favour of the intereſts of America, that I regarded him as an eſtimable character, and moſt ſincerely wiſhed he could have had a free intercourſe with ſome of the ſenſible Whigs without the lines: But from firſt to laſt of theſe converſations *I* uniformly told him that *I* thought he cheriſhed a deluſive idea, namely, that the Congreſs kept the true ſenſe of the people from the public, and that if that was fairly to be come at independence would loſe ground.

I am ſure *I* can ſay, ſpeaking within bounds, *I* repeated half a dozen times to him that *I* believed if the votes of the people were or could be impartially taken, they would give the deciſion in favor of independency; but this ſentiment he never coincided in.

At this time my mind was much engaged with the thoughts of preſenting a memorial to the Supreme Executive Council, then at Lancaſter, as *I* thought it of ſome conſequence to get it laid before that Honorable *Body*, previous to the time my huſband was cited to appear, June the 25th. He was there ſummoned as guilty of High Treaſon, on the idea of his being a ſubject of the States: Now as he was by birth a *Britan*, and left this near a year before the declaration of *Independency*, I was encouraged by ſome gentlemen, learned in the law, to point out, that he could not with propriety come under the deſcription of the bulk of the proſcribed, but *I* beg pardon for wandering from the ſubject in this ſeeming digreſſion.

Governor Johnſtone heard me ſay *I* was going on this errand, and the converſation, Mr. Reed more particularly refers to in his recital, paſſed between governor Johnſtone and myſelf, about a quarter of an hour before governor Johnſtone left Mr. Stedman's houſe, in Mr. Stedman's tea-room to the beſt of my memory on the 16th June, between the hours of ten and eleven in the morning. Gov. Johnſtone ſent me a manuſcript book to read the morning he went off, but in ſo haſty a way that he aſked three or four times for it before it was poſſible to have read it a quarter thro', the general vein that prevailed in it was pointing out the many advantages ariſing from a reunion with *Britain*, and a commercial intercourſe, and ſeveral good things I believe were in it, but I thought it much too proſix to be of general utility. I returned the book to him in Mr. Stedman's tea-room and was going out; he reſumed the thread of politics.

Mrs. Ferguſſon, ſays governor johnſtone, this is a moſt unhappy diſpute; can nothing be fallen on to mitigate matters? God grant there could, governor johnſtone, returned I; you are a perſon in power; you *know* how ardently I wiſh for peace; for I before that had ſaid to governor johnſtone, that if he would be inſtrumental by his repreſentations at home to effect peace, it would give him comfort in his dying hour, when all earthly honours and views, would be light in the balance: And I again repeated, "*I* am certain nothing ſhort of *Independence* will be accepted." I am told replied he, that Morris and Reed have a great deal to ſay in your politics. I anſwered, I believe they have; they are both gentlemen of diſtinguiſhed characters for good ſenſe and patriotic principles. *I* know ſomething of Reed (ſays johnſtone) I forwarded letters to him of Mr. Dubert's; I knew Mr. Dubert well; I wiſh *I* could ſee Mr. Reed and Mr. Morris, but particularly Mr. Reed; I think I could ſay many things to him that would be for the advantage of ſettling this conteſt. I wiſh you could, Sir; I dare ſay, that if you were to converſe with either of thoſe gentlemen it would be to your mutual ſatisfaction, and *I* think it is a great pity that you have not an opportunity. I heard, ſays he, that Reed has a great deal to ſay with Waſhington. I believe, Sir, returned I, that general *Reed* ſtands very well with general *Waſhington* (for I always made it a point to give our officers their titles immediately, when any of the Britiſh gentlemen omitted them.) *I* had thoughts, ſays johnſtone, of applying to both thoſe gentlemen (meaning Mr. Read and Mr. Morris) for their good offices, but the fewer people one applies to the better: but I ſhould be particularly glad of Mr. Reed's influence in this affair; Mrs. Ferguſſon, ſays he, (and I think he looked a little confuſed) if this affair ſhould be ſettled in the way we wiſh, we ſhall have many pretty things in our power; and if Mr. Reed, after well conſidering the nature of the diſpute, can conformable to his conſcience and view of things, exert his influence to ſettle the conteſt, he may command ten thouſand Guineas and the beſt poſt in the government, and if you ſhould ſee him, I could wiſh you would convey that idea to him. I own I felt hurt and ſhocked, for I regarded the hint as indelicate, and from that moment Mr. johnſtone appeared to *me* in a different point of light. He then was turning out of the room, the Commodore had ſent for him and General

Clinton two or three times that morning, while we were together. If he read countenances as well as I believe he did, he muſt immediately have ſeen diſguſt ſtrongly painted on mine. I deſired him to ſtay a moment: Sir, ſays I, ſince you have opened your mind ſo freely to me, allow me to ſuggeſt a few hints with the ſame freedom. By all means, Madam. Do not you think, Sir, that Mr. Reed will look upon ſuch a mode of obtaining his influence as a bribe? (I really made uſe of that plain term.) Do you think ſo, Madam? I really, Sir, ſhould apprehend ſo. By no means, Madam; this method of proceeding is cuſtomary in all negociations; and one may very honourably make it a man's intereſt to ſtep forth in a cauſe. I know little of negociations, concerned I, but this appears to me, that if it is Mr. Reed's judgment, that America ſhould give up the point of independence, he will ſay ſo, if he has any influence in her councils, without fee or reward; and if he is of a different opinion, no pecuniary emolument ſhould lead him to give a contrary vote. He ſaid he did not ſee the matter in the ſame point of light exactly as I did; and abruptly bad me farewell; and I believe if his heart had that moment been ſeen, he was vexed he had gone ſo far.

And have made a ſimple narrative of a fact as far as it relates to gov. Johnſtone's converſation with me. The misfortune of all narration is, they unavoidably lead to prolixity, and many little points that appear extremely intereſting to the narrator, ſeem as tedious and non eſſential to the reader. I muſt now, in vindication of my own character, be permitted to ſay ſomething in regard to the converſation I had with General Reed: Had he been as tender of my political reputation in his publication, as I ever have been and now am of his, I ſhould at this time have been ſaved this diſagreable explanation. I have nothing to ſay that can caſt a ſhade on his character as a patriot, or injure him with the public as to the capital point: For when I came to the moſt intereſting part of the converſation, he anſwered without heſitation, "my influence is but ſmall, but was it as great as gov. Johnſtone would inſinuate, the King of Gr. Britain has nothing in his gift that would tempt me." Immediately on ſeeing the account publiſhed of this affair in Towne's Evening Poſt I ſat down under the warmth of the firſt impreſſion of reſentment, and wrote the letter that is ſubjoined to this publication. The paper did not reach me till the 26th of July: I was at my own retired ſpot at Gimme-Park; I had no creature to conſult, and wrote it in four hours after ſeeing the Evening Poſt. I never had the leaſt previous intimation from Gen. Reed, or any of his friends, that he intended publiſhing the account, nor the leaſt hint of ſuch a deſign when I ſaw him that once, which is the only time I ever exchanged a word with him. In that letter I only anticipated the diſagreable conſequence that his repreſentation would produce. I have ſince ſeverely felt and realized them. It is true Mr. Reed, though preſſed to it, has never given up the name of the lady; but there was ſuch a combination of circumſtances joined to his account, as never left the public in doubt of the perſon. I was immediately pointed out, and my ſilence was a tacit confeſſion.

And I received no one advantage from not acknowledging myſelf as the perſon; unleſs theſe may be ranked as ſuch, namely, not having it in my power to throw in one paliating or extenuating circumſtance in my own behalf; and being obliged to hear a hundred rude and impertinent things ſaid by people who had only the dark ſide of my character. Finally, I might be compared in ſuch a ſituation to a perſon in an open field, whoſe enemy is hid in buſhes, who darts forth poiſoned arrows that ſpread their venom. I own I am wounded where I am moſt vulnerable; I mean my reputation. Much could I ſay with truth of my love to my country, but will here be ſilent, for two reaſons; as a female perhaps to enlarge on that ſubject might be deemed an affectation of maſculine virtue; and at this time it might appear as deſigned to carry certain points now in ſuſpence.

Let this appeal to the public be taken in what light it may, I offer it with diffidence; but feel myſelf much more eaſy in my mind now I have given it than I ever have done ſince I had that unlucky converſation with governor Johnſtone. Among the many mortifying inſinuations that have been hinted on the ſubject, none has ſo ſenſibly affected me as an inſinuation, that ſome thought I acted a part in conſequence of certain expectations, or ſome preferment from Mr. Johnſtone to be conferred on the perſon deareſt to me on earth. On that head I ſhall ſay no more, but leave it to any perſon of common ſenſe to determine, if I had any views of that kind, whether I ſhould in ſo full and ſolemn a manner call in queſtion what Mr. Johnſtone has aſſerted in the Houſe of Commons? A proceeding of this kind muſt totally excluded all avenues of favour from that quarter, were there ever any expected, which I ſolemnly declare never was the caſe.

If this account ſhould ever have the honor to be glanced over by the eye of gov. Johnſtone, I know not in what medium he may view it: It is poſſible that the multiplicity of ideas which paſs thro' the brain of a politician in the courſe of a few months, may have joſtled the whole tranſaction out of his memory. Should this be the caſe, inſignificant and contemptible as I may appear to him, I believe there are two or three people in Britain that will venture to tell him in all his plenitude of power that they believe I would not ſtir my hand to an untruth. The letter I wrote to Mr. Reed is a proof that I never intended to deny the converſation; if I had ever views of that kind, I ſhould not have been ſo weak as to have put it out of my power to have even equivocated about it when called on by Mr. Reed. I do not pretend to aſſert that I ſet preciſely related to Mr. Reed every word that paſſed, how, when and where, as I do in this account, which I believe I ſhall enforce by a depoſition: But I now call on Mr. Reed, in the preſence of an all-ſeeing God to declare, whether in the courſe of the converſation I had with him, I expreſſed one ſentiment that breathed a wiſh that he or any perſon in power ſhould accept of any *douceurs* to preponderate in the ſcale.

I took no minutes of either of the converſations I had with the above mentioned gentlemen, therefore there may be ſome trifling errors: But as to a ſum and office being mentioned, which ſeems to be the moſt eſſential part of the affair, I am not miſtaken in.

I never will write or ſpeak more on the ſubject, nor enter into any further explanations: if I have erred I muſt ſuffer. With all poſſible reſpect I remain the candid reader's moſt obedient humble ſervant.

ELIZABETH FERGUSSON.

Philadelphia, February 16, 1779.

Green-Park, July 26, 1778.

SIR,

IT is with no ſmall degree of regret that I now ſit down to addreſs a few lines to you on a ſubject that is by no means agreable to me to enter on: But I muſt beg the favour of your attention, with hopes of obtaining rather more candor, than I think has been ſhewn me heretofore.

I ſaw to-day Towne's Evening Poſt, in which Gov. Johnſtone's letter to you, Sir, is inſerted, (that I have no buſineſs with) but the relation of a converſation which paſſed between General Reed and a certain Lady muſt have been publiſhed with your conſent; and that is an affair I muſt be permitted to touch upon.

Well acquainted as you are, Sir, with the methods which are made uſe of in courts of judicature for the inveſtigation of truth, it would be ſuperfluous in me to hint, that the ſuppreſſion of ſome circumſtances, and dwelling ſtrongly on others, give a colouring and complexion to things very different from their real and original meaning and ſignification.

That you Sir, ſhewed no diſpoſition to fall in with any ſchemes which Gov. Johnſtone might wiſh you to adopt in favour of America's yielding her claim to independency, is certainly juſtly ſtated in your account. But ſurely Gen. Reed could have pointed out his firmneſs to his country's cauſe, without ſuffering an innocent, and I may ſay, almoſt friendleſs woman, to be exhibited in a common news-paper, and that in a manner which conveys no other idea but that of her being an emiſſary of the Commiſſioners; and that ſhe, by having ſome of her friends gone off with the Britiſh troop, was endeavouring to ſhew her attachment to their abſence.

As you ſelf, Sir, and the Lady, were the only parties that know any thing of the affair in queſtion, it is only you that can be appealed to. Be pleaſed, Sir, to recollect the ſtyle, the manner, and the whole of that *tete a tete*; and then, Sir, on the part of the Lady can you determine that the converſation has been kindly, friendly, or fairly ſtated: If it has, my memory has greatly failed me in almoſt every point.

Any perſon of common ſenſe who reads the anecdote as related in the Evening Poſt, would conclude a billet was ſent to Gen. Reed from the Lady, for no other purpoſe than to act ſolely on Gov. Johnſtone's buſineſs. Affairs relative to a near friend occupied her mind more than more, and ſhe applied to Gen. Reed for his advice; and ſhe thought that at parting he offered it cordially and ſincerely her little concerns.

Accident flung her into the ſame houſe appropriated to the uſe of Gov. Johnſtone; ſhe mentioned him to you as one that ſeemed very deſirous of ſettling matters upon ſome amicable footing.

Gen. Reed told her he had received a letter from Gov. Johnſtone; ſhe from thence concluded he had opened his mind fully in that letter on the point of engaging Mr. Reed in his intereſt; and ſhe then repeated what had paſſed between Gov. Johnſtone and herſelf with regard to politics in general and Mr. Reed's influence in particular.

But ſhe is certain that ſhe repeated to Gen. Reed what ſhe ſaid to Mr. Johnſtone, which was, that if Gen. Reed or any other perſon in power looked upon it as beneficial for America that ſhe ſhould yield independency and be re united to Great-Britain, he would ſuggeſt that idea without reward; and if he entertained oppoſite ſentiments, no offers if he was an honeſt man could bias his judgment to give a contrary vote.

But there was no convincing the Commiſſioners that the votes of the Congreſs was the voice of the people; and as their intercourſe for the moſt part lay with the friends of government, it was natural for them to imbibe their ſentiments.

I am ſenſible, Sir, that the political opinions of women are ridiculed among the generality of men, but I own I find it hard, (knowing the uncorruptneſs of my heart) to be held out to the public as a tool to the Commiſſioners. Perhaps few minds would more ſenſibly feel ſo humiliating and mortifying an idea.

But the impreſſion is now made, and it is too late to recall it. How far at this critical juncture of time this affair may injure my property is uncertain; that I aſſure you is but a ſecondary thought.

Under no very agreeable ſtation of mind, I beg leave to conclude myſelf.

Your very humble ſervant,

ELIZABETH FERGUSSON.

THE 16th day of February, 1779. Before me John Ord, Eſq; one of the Juſtices of the Peace for the city and county of Philadelphia, came Elizabeth Fergusſon, of Horſham townſhip, country of Philadelphia aforeſaid, and being ſworn on the Holy Evangeliſts of Almighty God, did depoſe, declare and ſay, that the declaration above mentioned is drawne up and wrote with her own hand writing, and is in every reſpect juſt and true to the beſt of her remembrance.

ELIZABETH FERGUSSON.

Sworn at Philadelphia before me, the day and Year aforeſaid.

JOHN ORD.

CHARLES-TOWN, *April* 14.

AT the late Special Court of General Seſſions, &c. held at Ninety-Six, ſeventy of Col. Boyd's ſecretly raiſed Regiment (to act in Concert with the Britiſh Troops in Georgia and their Indian Allies) which were ſome Time ſince made Priſoners by a Detachment of the Militia under the Command of Brigadier General Williamſon, were convicted of Treaſon againſt the State; but 50 of them were recommended to Mercy.—— It appeared, upon their Trials, that moſt of them had been ſeduced and terrified into this fatal Step, by Boyd, and a number of People who frequently came amongſt them from North Carolina, under a Variety of Pretences; and for want of proper Information of the Nature of our Conteſt with Great-Britain.

Pariſh and other Officers choſen according to Law, on laſt Eaſter Monday, viz.

Veſtrymen for St. Philip's. Gabriel *Manigault*, Hugh Rutledge, Daniel Cannon, Peter Bacot, Eſqrs. Meſſieurs Thomas Corbett, William Doughty, and Thomas Ratcliffe, jun.——Church-Wardens. *Meſſ.* Richard *Muncreef* jun. and Richard Wainwright.

[The Veſtrymen and Church-Wardens of St. *Michael's*, not having been elected on that Day, are to be choſen on *Monday* next.]

Commiſſioners of the Streets, and Firemaſters. Daniel Cannon, Joſeph Verree, William Johnſon, Aaron Loocock, John Edwards, Edward Blake, Eſq; Meſſ. Richard *Muncreef*, Samuel Prioleau, jun. Thomas Ratcliffe jun. and Abraham Spidal.

Commiſſioners of the *Markets* and Work-Houſe. Joſeph Atkinſon and John Perronneau, Eſqrs. *Meſſ.* John Boomer, Job Colcock, and Joſhua Lockwood.

Meaſurers of Wood and Coal. John Poaug, Eſq; *Meſſ.* Ichabod Atwell, Robert Howard, and John Boomer.

Packers. *Meſſ.* Samuel Fley, David Seiler, Charles Gruber, William *M'Kimmie*, and *M'Cullough* Righton.

At the anniverſary *Meeting* of the South-Carolina Society held on Tueſday in Eaſter Week, the following Officers were elected for the enſuing Year, viz. Samuel Prioleau, Eſq; Steward; *Major* John Huger, Senior Warden, Col. Iſaac Motte, Junior Warden, William Logan, Eſq; Treaſurer, *Mr.* John *M'Call*, jun. Clerk, *Meſſrs.* Peter Valton and Richard *Wainwright*, Conſtables.

The gallant *Capt.* Guſtavus Cunningham, in the Revenge Cutter, who in the beginning of the preſent Conteſt took two Britiſh Packets, and has ſince been very ſucceſsful againſt the Enemies of the United States, is arrived ſafe at Philadelphia.

Laſt Friday arrived here from the Northward, *Mr.* Pennet, an eminent *Merchant* of Nantes, and Partner to the late *Mr.* Pliarne.

Towards the Cloſe of laſt *Month* 47 Slaves, belonging to Benjamin Guerard, Eſq; were taken from that Gentleman's Plantation near Port-Royal, and carried to Georgia, by a privateering Party of the Enemy: But another Party fines, belonging to a Privateer commanded by one Hill, upon a like Scheme of plundering the Plantations at the Southward, has not been ſo ſucceſsful—inſtead of getting Plunder, they fell into the Hands of a Party of *Militia* commanded by Lieutenant Heap, after exchanging a few Shot, when the Lieutenant of the Privateer, whoſe Name is Welch, was wounded. Amongſt the other Priſoners, is one Sabert *Ogleaby*, that lived on Stoll's Iſland, and ſerved the enemy as a Guide, who was laſt Saturday brought to Town under a Guard.—The Lieutenant of the Privateer told Lieut. Heap, that there were five more Privateers in Georgia, fitted for the Purpoſe of plundering defenceleſs Plantations in this State, two of which were intended to go up the River *May*, and three up Broad-River; and he pretended the Daphne would be ſtationed in the latter River.

The Enemy's Cruizers have not been ſeen near this Bar ſince laſt Wedneſday when 2 of them, a Sconer and a Sloop paſſed to the Southward: But laſt Saturday a Sloop of 10 or 12 Guns, which had lain at Anchor off Bull's Iſland the two preceding *Days*, entered the Bay, and took out the Brig Phœnix from Caſco Bay for this Port. John *M'Kean Maſter*, who, with his Crew eſcaped on Shore in their Boat.

Two of our armed State Veſſels, the Notre Dame and Eagle, which ſailed upon a Cruize laſt Thurſday, with the Hornet, returned to this Port laſt *Monday*, without the Hornet, which was taken the Day before, by a Britiſh 20 Gun Ship ſuppoſed to be the Daphne, and carried into Tybee.

By the Station the Daphne has taken, being met in Lat. 31, it is to be preſumed, that ſeveral very valuable Veſſels are daily expected in Georgia; and that her being gone for New York, was given out as a Deception.

Gentlemen who ſubſcribed prior to the advanced Price of this Gazette *in November laſt, are requeſted to complete their Subſcriptions to the firſt of July next.*

Advertiſements, &c. omitted, ſhall have place in our next.

TO be Let immediately at a landing in St. Thomas's, two Dwelling Houſes and Gardens; alſo ſtores for merchandize or goods: Diſtant from Charleſtown 9 miles, from which landing ferry boats ply every day to town. Whoever inclines to take upon rent the premiſes, or any part thereof, may apply to the ſubſcriber on the ſame.

THOMAS ADDISON.

JACOB COHEN, at his ſtore in King ſtreet, will ſell wholeſale or retail, all his remaining ſtock on hand.

The two emiſſions of April and May will be received in payment till the 25th of May.

FOR private Sale, the noted Horſe Gambler, formerly belonging to Edward Thomas, Eſq; about 14 hands and a half high; he is a very good ſaddle horſe, and ſold for no fault, the preſent proprietor having no occaſion for him.——Alſo a Grapnel almoſt new, of about 200 wt. and a pair of Quern-ſtones 26 inches diameter. Enquire of

JOHN RICHARD TALLMAN.

TO be ſold, on Thurſday the 29th inſtant, at the plantation where Mrs. Patience Dannelly lived, at Wapetah, Part of the Eſtate, conſiſting of two Negroes, cattle, horſes, hogs, ſheep, houſhold furniture, corn, &c. plantation tools, alſo the hire of ſundry negroes to the firſt of January next. Conditions to be made known at the day of ſale. All perſons to whom the ſaid eſtate is indebted are deſired to deliver in their accounts properly atteſted, and thoſe who are indebted to make immediate payment, to

Iſaac Legare,
Nathan Tart, } Executors.

FOR public Sale, on Thurſday the 25th of April inſtant, at the Exchange, about 12 o'clock in the Forenoon, a Houſe and Lot in Dean's Square, lately occupied by colonel Marion; it is very convenient for a ſmall family or a batchelor, having ſix rooms, a kitchen, ſtore and chair houſe, ſtable &c. the purchaſer may have immediate poſſeſſion.

FOR private ſale, Three good riding Horſes. Enquire at the Printing Office in the State-Houſe.

WILLIAM DANNY and Co. at their Tan-yard, known by the name of Hopton's Tan-yard, and oppoſite General Gadſden's, are in want of a Number of Shoemakers and Saddlers, to whom they will give the beſt Wages. Enquire at the above Yard.

CHARLES-TOWN: Printed at TIMOTHY and BODEN's Office, in the State-Houſe, where Advertiſements, &c. are received.